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REMARKS

Favorable reconsideration of this application in view of the amendments and remarks to follow and allowance of the claims of the present application are respectfully requested.

In the Office Action, Claims 13-22, and 27 are objected to under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, as allegedly indefinite for using the term "hydrido".

In response, the applicants have replaced "hydrido" with "hydrogen" in Claims 13-22 and 27.

Claims 13-22 are objected to under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph, as allegedly lacking enablement for using the term "prodrugs".

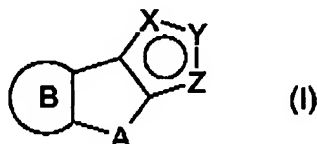
Applicants respectfully submit that "prodrug" is a term that is widely used in the field of biomedical and pharmaceutical research. Applicants believe that "prodrugs" convey clear and definite meaning to one skilled in the art. More specifically, it is well understood in the art that the term "prodrug" refers to a precursor of a drug, i.e., a compound that, on administration, undergoes chemical conversion by metabolic processes before becoming an active pharmacological agent. Thus, applicants submit that the present claims convey to one skilled in the art with sufficient clarity the metes and bounds of the claimed subject matter.

The objections to Claims 13-22 and 27 under §112 are overcome. Withdrawal of said objections is respectfully requested.

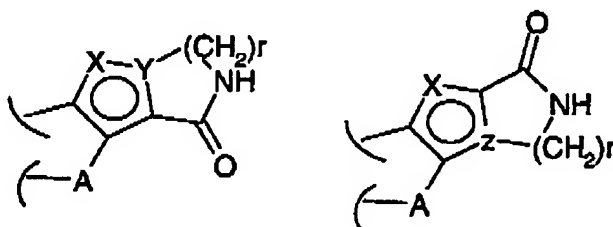
In the Office Action, the Examiner maintained the restriction because at least one Markush alternative of Claim 13 is allegedly not novel 35 U.S.C. §102(b) over U.S. Patent No. 4,730,430 to Le Tourneau ("Le Tourneau"). Claims 13-18 and 27 are rejected under 35 U.S.C.

§102(b) as allegedly being anticipated by Le Tourneau. The Examiner has listed a number of registered compounds in Le Tourneau on pages 10-11 of the Office Action.

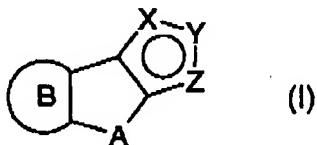
Applicants respectfully submit that the elected and examined subject matter of the present application is directed to compounds of formula (I), see page 5 of the Office Action:



wherein X is N or NR₁; Y is N or NR₁; Z is CR₁; B is 1H-pyrazole, A is (CH₂)_m, (CH₂)_n-CH=CH-(CH₂)_n or (CR_zR_y)_p; m is 2; R_z and R_y are defined in Claim 13; p is 2; n is 0; and R₁ is selected from the group consisting of hydrido, lower alkyl, perfluorinated lower alkyl, heterocyclyl, CN, CO₂R', COCF₃, COR', CONR'R'', NR'R'', C(=NR')NR'R'', CONHNH₂, CONHOR', NHCOR', CH₂NH₂, and CH₂NHCOR'; or R₁ may form, when part of Z or Y, a 5 to 7 membered ring together with the remaining of Y or Z, as per the formula below.



However, applicants respectfully draw the Examiner's attention to page 10 of the Office Action, wherein Claims 13-18, directed to a compound of formula (I), are rejected:



wherein X is CR₁; R₁ is hydrido or lower alkyl; Y is N; Z is NR₁; A is (CH₂)_m or (CR_zR_y)_p; m is 2; R_z is hydrido, R_y is hydrido; p is 2; B is a 5-membered aromatic ring having 0 to 3

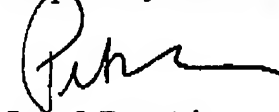
heteroatoms selected from S, O, and N; each of X, Y, Z and B rings are optionally further substituted with one or more L-R₂ groups; L is a single bond or an alkylidene group; and R₂ is hydrido, alkyl, or a 5-12 membered monocyclic ring having 0-3 heteroatoms.

Applicants respectfully submit that there are discrepancies between the elected subject matter on page 5 and the rejected subject matter on page 10 of the Office Action. Specifically, the elected species, as the applicants have submitted in the supplemental response to the request for reconsideration of the restriction requirement on January 3, 2007, is not encompassed by the rejected subject matter on Page 10 of the Office Action. It is, nonetheless, encompassed by the elected subject matter on page 5 of the Office Action.

Applicants further submit that the elected species, a structure of the formula (I) wherein B is a pyrazole ring, r is 3 and A is CH₂C(CH₃)₂, is novel over the teachings of Le Tourneau. Accordingly, the rejection under §102(b) is overcome and withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

Thus, in view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, it is firmly believed that the present application is in condition for allowance, which action is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,



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